

James L. Mason, W4RCX
2521 Needles Ct.
Owensboro, KY 42301-4192

Comment on Petition for Rule Making RM-10867

The petitions submitted by the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) (RM-10867), the Radio Amateur Foundation (RM-10868), and the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) (RM-10870) are comprehensive and all have good arguments. RM-10867 and RM-10870 are very similar proposals with the main exception being the change in the CW requirement for licensure. RM-10867 would keep the code requirement for Extra class licensees, whereas RM-10870 proposes to eliminate the code requirement for all license classes.

Ronald D. Lawrence's petition (RM-10869) which proposes to make the code requirements even harder should be dismissed without further consideration.

I suggest that the FCC merge the ARRL and NCVEC proposals by retaining the Morse code requirement only for the Extra class license and creating a new entry class Communicator license as proposed by the NCVEC. Current Novices would be merged into the new Communicator class, while Technician, and Technician Plus licenses would be merged into the General license class. Advanced licenses would merge into the Extra license class, reducing the number of license classifications from the current six to only three.

Respectively submitted,

James L. Mason
Amateur Radio Operator W4RCX